

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2812

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008

INTERCEPTOR AND DIVERSION SCHEME FOR CLEARING YAMUNA

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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for implementation of an interceptor and diversion scheme with a view to cleanse Yamuna of its pollution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the level of cleanliness likely to be achieved as a result thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the proposed scheme is different from the ones implemented in the past;
- (d) the amount of expenditure involved to implement the said scheme;
- (e) whether there is any similar schemes for rest of the rivers in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) No, Sir. According to the information provided by the Government of NCT of Delhi, Delhi Jal Board has evolved the concept of laying interceptor sewers along the three major drains namely, Najafgarh, Supplementary and Shahdara in Delhi to prevent the flow of untreated sewage and its treatment before discharge to river Yamuna. The salient features of DJB's proposal include laying of interceptor sewers, augmentation of existing capacity of sewage treatment plants (STPs) and construction of additional sewage treatment plants after full utilization of existing STPs. The proposal takes care of the untreated sewage from unsewered areas and allow only discharge of treated effluent into the river Yamuna. The tentative cost of the project is about Rs. 1300 crore. This concept is similar to the works implemented under Yamuna Action Plan, launched by Government of India in a phased manner.

(e) & (f) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), pollution abatement works are implemented to improve the water quality in the identified polluted stretches of major rivers in the Country. These works include interception and diversion of raw sewage flowing into the rivers, setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants for treating the diverted sewage, creation of low cost sanitation facilities, setting up of electric/improved wood crematoria and River Front Development among others. Presently, NRCP covers pollution abatement works in 164 towns along polluted stretches of 35 rivers spread over 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4863.75 crore.